

NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Minutes

School Board Meeting
February 27, 2006
Northfield High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order.
Chairperson Kari Nelson called the meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District 659 to order at 7:05 p.m. No one was absent.
- II. Agenda Changes.
The table file was added.
- III. Public Comment.
Fifteen parents, community members and students spoke in support of preserving the elementary orchestra program from the list of budget reductions for 2006-2007. Speaking were Paul Niemisto, Matthew Rohn, Steve Amundson, Jane Amundson, Tony Becker, Kathy Wise, David Carter, Martin Hodel, Samantha Weaver (student), Mary Weaver, Lisa Olson, Jane Rinehart, Ben Harkins (student), Paul Ousley and Luc Guerber (student). Chairperson Nelson then reviewed the budget reduction process with the audience.
- IV. Approval of Minutes.
Nelson made a correction to the "announcements" section of the minutes. Then, on a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Hager, the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting held on February 13, 2006, were approved as corrected.
- V. Announcements.
 - Eighty Bridgewater fourth and fifth graders performed in "Tom Sawyer" with the Prairie Fire Children's Theater on Friday, Feb 24 and Saturday, Feb 25.
 - Congratulations to the entire Mock Trial Team on their impressive 2nd place regional finish. The Raiders were a mere 5 points away from going to state for the third consecutive year. The team lost a heartbreaker to a powerful Lake Crystal team 208-203.
 - Amy Allin applied for and was awarded one of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's 2006 Plant-It Grants! This is a \$500 grant for the purchase of plants, lumber, mulch, soil, paving stones, fencing or other horticultural supplies to implement the plan she developed for an outdoor Learning Habitat planting at school.
 - Congratulations to the Olympic Style Weight Lifting Team. They repeated as Minnesota High School Weight Lifting State Champs! The girls team made history by winning the State championship at all 7 weight classes. The Weight Lifting team is coached by Scott Sahli.
 - Congratulations to the Wrestling team for a great season. Tyler Faust advances to state competition.
 - Thanks to the middle school music teachers for organizing the solo and ensemble competition. Good experience for these young musicians.
 - Several teachers have been recognized recently: Marilynn Neuville - Awarded Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts and Tom Graupmann and Jody Saxton West who were profiled in *Portraits* published by the Northfield News.
 - Thank you to HCI and PEARLS for the "Early Show" and "Saturday Night Live" at the Middle School.

VI. Items for Discussion and / or Reports.

1. Energy Savings Program.

The District has spent the last two summers addressing Indoor Air Quality concerns and Energy Consumption costs in our buildings. The new Middle School construction incorporated these measures in the design and the building climate controls of the new structure. More recently, projects have been completed at the High School, Sibley, Greenvale Park, Bridgewater and Longfellow. Johnson Controls presented a summary of the work completed and the ongoing programs in energy monitoring and custodial staff training to enable us to maintain quality environments in our schools and minimize energy costs.

2. City Outdoor Pool Presentation.

Joel Walinski, Operations Manager for the City of Northfield, presented the approved City outdoor pool plan. Recreation Coordinator Erin Mayberry answered questions related to the pool plan and the programming role that Community Services provides through our partnership with the City.

3. Preschool and Child Care Restructuring Plan.

Gary Lewis and Hannah Puczko presented information about the restructured plan for the integrated preschool. The design is intended to make better use of the resources available to support this program while also providing greater options for families.

VII. Superintendent's Report

A. Items for Individual Action

1. 2005-2006 Revised Budget Adjustments.

	Beginning Fund Balance 6/30/2005	Revenue	Expenditures	Ending Fund Balance 6/30/2006
General	\$ (1,337,341)	\$ 31,030,380	\$ 30,450,769	\$ (757,730)
Capital/Health & Safety	(76,663)	2,060,736	1,683,682	300,391
Food Service	212,675	1,555,606	1,584,308	183,973
Community Service	33,562	1,623,957	1,604,151	53,368
Construction	5,070,020	60,000	5,085,000	45,020
Debt Service	480,629	5,126,500	4,876,977	730,152
Trust Fund-Scholarships	86,762	32,226	35,150	83,838
Self-Insured Dental	-	344,030	344,030	-
Total	\$ 4,469,644	\$ 41,833,435	\$ 45,664,067	\$ 639,012

On a motion by Hargis, seconded by Cirksena, the Board approved the Revised 2005-06 budgets as presented.

B. Items for Consent Grouping.

On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Hager, the Board approved the following items listed under the Consent Grouping.

1. Financial Reports - December 2005 and January 2006.

The Board approved paid bills totaling \$1,453,233.62, payroll checks totaling \$1,797,139.44 and the financial reports for December 2005. There were no bond payments in December 2005. They also approved paid bills totaling \$1,404,281.30, payroll checks totaling \$1,652,409.92, bond payments totaling \$3,415,368.15 and the financial reports for January 2006.

2. Lease Agreement with Northfield Gymnastics Club.

The Board approved the lease with the Northfield Gymnastics Club for the use of its facilities by the Northfield High School Gymnastics activity programs, including 60 practices and 8 competitions per school year. The term of this lease is from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007.

3. Memorandum of Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato School of Nursing.

The Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement with Minnesota State University, Mankato School of Nursing to provide clinical experiences for nursing students. This Agreement will be in effect for the 2006-2007 school year and will be reviewed again next year at this time.

4. Personnel Items.

a. Appointments**

1. Theresa Brake, Instructional Educational Assistant at Greenvale Park Elementary School for 2.5 hours/day, 4 days/week, beginning February 14, 2006, Class II, step 1. There are no benefits with this position.
2. Co-Curricular Assignments
Sam Wold, 6th -8th Grade Boys Tennis Coach

b. Leave of Absence

1. Paul Stanaway, FMLA leave from January 16, 2006 – February 27, 2006.

c. Voluntary Reduction in Hours

1. Shari Bridley was granted a voluntary reduction in her hours for Family Ed to her scheduled 2.75 hours on Mondays, with some afternoons and evenings as needed.

d. Resignations

1. Richard Welch, High School Custodian, with February 17, 2006, his last day of work.
2. TinaMarie Lugo, Special Ed Educational Assistant, resignation effective February 20, 2006.
3. Tom Smith, High School Track Coach
4. Jay Larsen, Middle School Track Coach

**Conditional offers of employment are subject to successful completion of a criminal background check.

5. Field Experience Contractual Agreement.

The Board approved the Field Experience Contract with Luther College, which allows the District to participate in their field experience program, which includes student teaching, observation and practica during the 2006-2007 academic year.

6. Gift Agreement.

The Sibley PTO has donated \$4997.10 to use to Sibley teachers' wish lists and \$3888.66 for media books.

VIII. Items for Information.

1. 2006-2007 School Year Calendar.

The District's Meet and Confer committee met on February 21, 2006. The proposed 2006-2007 school year calendar is being recommended with consensus of the Meet and Confer Committee made up of teachers from each building, District representatives and Board representatives. The Board will act on the recommendation of the Meet and Confer committee at the March 13, 2006, school board meeting.

IX. Future Meetings

Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 PM, School Board Work Session,

Northfield High School Media Center

Thursday, March 9, 2006, 7:00 PM, Public Hearing-Budget Reduction Proposals,

Northfield High School Auditorium

Monday, March 13, 2006, 7:00 PM, Regular School Board Meeting,

Northfield High School Media Center

X. On a motion by Cirksena, seconded by Hager, the Board adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Katy Hargis, Clerk